

Docket No. 501.43313X00
Serial No. 10/743,706
June 27, 2005

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment, in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.114, is respectfully requested.

The present Amendment is being filed as a Submission together with an RCE filed on even date herewith.

By the present Amendment, claims 1, 5-10 and 16-20 are canceled without prejudice to the Applicants' right to proceed with the subject matter of these claims at a later time. Also by the present Amendment, claim 2 has been rewritten to set forth the invention defined therein in a "comprising" format. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended to correct minor grammatical errors noted therein.

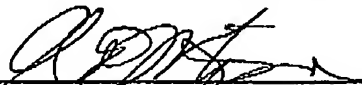
The attached Appendix provides a sworn translation of the priority document for the present application, thereby obtaining the benefit of the Japanese priority date of December 26, 2002, under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.119. By virtue of this, it is noted that the patent application U.S. 2003/186490 to Kato filed with the January 13, 2005, Information Disclosure Statement, is no longer available as a reference since its earliest effective date is March 25, 2003.

If the Examiner believes that there are any matters which can be resolved by way of either a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

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Applicants request any shortage or excess in fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, and for which no other form of payment is offered, be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.43313X00).

Respectfully submitted,
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